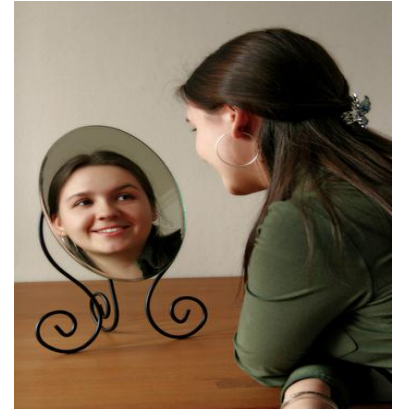


Mirrors and their Reflections

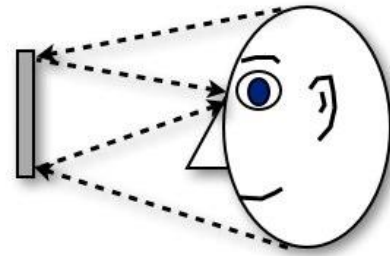
Common Misconceptions:

Mirrors are common placed items in our lives. Having experiences with them on a daily basis would make one think that we would understand how they work, yet it seems that there are misconceptions that we still hold onto. One of these misconceptions is that as an individual steps further away from the mirror they will eventually be able to see their whole body.



Truth:

The dimensions of an image in the mirror are the same as dimensions as the object that is in front of the mirror. The Law of Reflection states that when the angle of the eye is equal to the angle of the line of reflection the object will appear the same size, no matter the distance.



Where does this misconception come from?

Misconceptions could be due to the virtual reflection and seeming left- right reversal. Society also places an emphasis on mirrors as an illusion or mythical thing that can't be explained. Just look at literature, mirrors are portrayed as mythical things. Examples of this are *Alice in Wonderland*, the magic mirror in *Snow White*.

References

<http://www.physicsclassroom.com/class/refln/Lesson-2/Image-Characteristics>

<http://science.howstuffworks.com/innovation/everyday-innovations/mirror2.htm>